

## GRACE ALONE

Thirteenth in a series of articles on "Grace Alone," by Dr. J. R. Lavik,  
Luther Seminary, Saskatoon.

### JUSTIFICATION

Next to the atonement, it is the Scriptural doctrine of justification that most clearly and strongly emphasizes salvation by grace alone.

In the first place, we are told that "man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." (Rom. 3:28). It is significant to keep in mind the technical terminology of Scripture, and in this connection particularly that of Paul. Guided by the Spirit of God he thinks very closely and expresses himself very precisely. In the interest of God's saving truth we should try to do the same. There are certain terms which are opposites, and define the truth with great precision. Note in this connection particularly grace and merit, faith and works. Grace is God's unmerited favor toward sinners. Where there is grace, therefore, there can be no merit. The one excludes the other. Faith and grace belong together, for there is no merit in faith. Merit and works, meaning meritorious works, belong together. "Works," or "good works," or "the deeds of the law," mean precisely the same in Paul's terminology, and claim merit before God.

"Man is justified," that is, forgiven and restored to fellowship with God, "by faith," that is, faith which only accepts grace and has no meritorious "deeds of the Law" upon which to base any claims. Merit under the Law does not in any sense or in any degree come into consideration. There is involved no merit whatever in connection with either repentance or faith, which causes God to blot out the sinner's guilt. Justification, forgiveness, comes through the merits of Christ alone. Nothing we do, or can do, moves God to be gracious. He loves us and would save us eternally because His nature is love. And the atonement, the finished work of the Redeemer, makes it possible for Him to reach down to the sinner and lift him up to Himself.

In the second place, the most emphatic, and to the conscience-stricken sinner the most reassuring statement to the effect that justification is by the grace of God alone, is found in Rom. 4:5, "But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." Faith counts for righteousness, that is, through faith righteousness is received by the one who is not trying by good works to improve himself or to mend his ways so that God for this reason shall be willing to receive him into His Kingdom, but who simply "believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly." Here we are confronted with the amazing truth that God justifies "the ungodly." He justifies the sinner before his nature and his ways have been changed, while he is still ungodly. How enlightening and comforting this is. God does not justify the godly, but the ungodly. He does not forgive saints but sinners. We do not have to become godly before He will receive us. We do not have to become saints before He will be gracious to us. If you are laboring under the Law, seeking to make yourself good and godly before you dare believe that God will receive you in grace and forgive you, put all that aside. The glad tidings of salvation in Christ is this that God now in this way of grace justifies the ungodly at the

Holy Spirit quicken in you faith to believe this and lay hold upon it. Salvation is the gift of God to sinners.

Surely, justification is by grace alone, to be received by the utterly unworthy sinner as a free and unmerited gift of God. In the words of the apostle Paul, "All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ . . . For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." (Rom. 5:18,21). Not only in His eternal counsel did God take the initiative, but He does so also today in dealing with the individual sinner. Through Christ He approaches the sinner and deals with him in grace as a personal being, and pronounces a judgment of acquittal upon those in whom He is permitted to bring about those changes in attitude and personality which are of necessity involved in personal salvation, and which Scripture designates by the terms conversion, regeneration, sanctification. The basic act of grace is justification, the forgiveness of sins, the removal of the guilt that separates from God, for the Holy Spirit cannot enter to dwell in the human heart and renew it until the guilt has been removed. He cannot and will not compromise with the guilt of sin. Justification, therefore, is the primary act, the fundamental act, on the basis of the atonement, which results in salvation. It is the ungodly that is justified, the guilty sinner that is forgiven. This shows how completely of grace justification is, always bearing in mind the atonement prepared the way for it. What a balm this is for the troubled conscience!

How this should encourage every seeking soul to come boldly unto the throne of grace in accordance with the invitation of the Gospel.



### Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute Spring Term

In the intensified two-year course adopted by C.L.B.I. this year, there are three terms of eight weeks each. The winter term ended March 4th and the spring term opens March 6th. Teachers during the spring term will be Pastor Pearson, Pastor J. Selmer Stolee, Inga Kjos and the dean.

There was some concern when the course was planned that there would be very few attending the spring term. At the present time it seems that there will be between thirty and thirty-five attending this term too. The total enrolment for the entire

## Resettlement Trip to Eastern Canada

Dr. Mars A. Dale, President of Canada District recently made a trip to eastern Canada in connection with Lutheran World Federation. This is the account of his trip:

### A STOP AT WINNIPEG

It was a beautiful, forty-below evening as I set out from Saskatoon to visit the east. The first lap took me to Winnipeg where I spent the day, attending the annual meeting of C.L.W.R. I was much impressed with the work that has again been carried on the past year by C.L.W.R. A very interesting innovation has been introduced during recent months. Men, who themselves are DP's, have been used to secure assurances for other DP's entering Canada. This procedure has proven most beneficial the short while it has been employed. Here, as everywhere, no one can tell the need as well as the one who has experienced it himself. In western Canada the man employed has only been able to use the German language. However he spoke to us through a very efficient interpreter, the C.L.W.R. office secretary. The eastern representative was not present. His services have been purely voluntary as yet, but it is reported that he would slip out, after

### COIN-A-MEAL AND OUR CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

"Learn of Me," said Jesus. Our church has faith in God's Word. The Word points the way unto salvation for sinners. The Word has power to save but also to keep for Christ. As members of this church we take God at His Word also when it says to train up a child in the way that he should go so that even when he is old he will not depart from it. Because of such a faith and the direct command of Christ to teach the young to observe His Word we have in our Evangelical Lutheran Church 12 schools of higher Christian education (name them) as well as a parish education program consisting of Sunday, vacation, weekday and Saturday church schools.

Our Lenten offerings help to sustain this work as an integral part of Christ's Kingdom work. As our gifts are placed in the container daily mention some of the needs the gift will fill in Christian education: To help provide Christian teachers in our church schools as well as in our secular schools, to give a definite Christian outlook to youth going into many different walks of life, to provide missionaries for the different fields (name the fields), pastors for our home fields.

At our Christian schools many of our youth are kept for Christ because of the teaching of the Word, as well as through the example of Christian teachers and fellow students. Then, too, each year we hear from our schools of youth who come to a saving knowledge of Christ, and the assurance of salvation.

Let our Lenten gifts be placed in our offering container regularly, prayerfully, generously, thankfully, as each one in the family remembers and thinks of the blessings to young, and to old as well, through this department of our Church.

—E. B. R. H.

year, longer or shorter stay, stands at 47. This is the largest attendance for many years. We are thankful to God for the increased interest. The school year under this new plan starts eight weeks before Christmas and continues until the latter part of April. This year graduation will be held April 30th.

work, and make the rounds of the farmers on his motorcycle. He was doing a fine job on this matter of assurances. The meeting, otherwise, showed much activity during the year and we felt that Pastor Monk was doing a fine job all the way around. We certainly ask God's blessings upon this important work.

Sunday meant preaching in Winnipeg. The E.L.C. church there is without a pastor at present so, as president of the Canada District, E.L.C., I felt it my duty to fill the pulpit. In the evening, at the station, I met Pastor Mehlenbacher, and boarded the same train. A fine evening of fellowship ensued. L.W.F., C.L.W.A. and Lutheran Unity in Canada, were thoroughly discussed. L.L.C.A. and E.L.C. appeals for Christian Education came in for some discussion, too, as Pastor Mehlenbacher is heading up this work for the Canada Synod U.L.C.A., and yours truly has been in the harness for the cause of Education in the E.L.C. for more than a year.

### PORT ARTHUR AND OTTAWA VISITED

Monday was spent in Port Arthur, making a visitation of the E.L.C. congregation there. Most of Tuesday was spent in Ottawa in consultation with government officials on various phases of church work in Canada. It happened that the premiers were trying to settle the question of the Canada constitution that day, so an hour was spent in the chambers, listening to the discussion.

### IN MONTREAL WITH FRIEDRICHSEN

Tuesday evening I was met in Montreal by Pastor Friedrichsen. It was interesting as we sat chatting for a couple of hours, to hear about all the phases of immigrant work in Montreal. We were reminded of the facts that 2,139 Lutheran immigrants came into Canada during the last quarter of 1949 and that by the end of 1949 the total had reached 20,000. I was further reminded that the total number of immigrants finding their way into Canada in 1949 was 84,000. Of these 33,000 were DP's and 11,000 Lutherans. A further interesting fact was that at present there are 262,000 unemployed in Canada, 30,000 of whom live in Montreal. This latter fact makes it difficult to find work for DP's and refugees who are returning to the city after their one year of work to which they were delegated upon their arrival in the Dominion.

Thursday, the 12th, was a very interesting day. In the morning Pastor Friedrichsen and I called on Mr. J. S. McGowan, Director of Immigration and Agriculture for the C.N.R. A very cordial gentleman he proved to be. When asked what the immigration picture looked like to him we were told that in 1948 126,000 found their way in Canada, and that in 1949 immigration had slumped to 90,000 and it was expected that in 1950 the number would further decrease to 50,000. The only hope for any increase in years to come, he thought, would be either the further opening of Germany or the securing of immigrants from Italy.

Our next stop was at C.P.R. headquarters. Here an appointment had been arranged with Mr. H. C. P. Cresswell, Chief Commissioner of the Department of Immigration and Colonization, C.P.R. Again we were told of the immigration slump, and when the commissioner was asked about the avenues of immigration for the future, he expressed the opinion that Great

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## The Shepherd

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### IT IS NOT TOO EARLY

Early seeding pays in the lives of little children. When this is done in the spirit of Christ, and undergirded by prayer the plant is not so in danger of "drying up" later as when that is deferred. Our Sunday Schools with the army of Sunday School teachers are continuing to build on the foundation that should be laid in the home. Christian instruction is a "must" in every home. However, in our district it is not possible for our Sunday Schools to do the work so effectively that no more needs to be done.

It is not too early to begin planning for summer vacation Bible school, or parochial school. In our Christian schools there are many consecrated, qualified teachers to be found. There are many in our congregations, too, who can do effective work in this important field. The day by day impact of the Word of God, when half or the whole day is spent in intensive, and well planned instruction, bears blessed fruit.

It is interesting, too, to know that not only are our own children in the congregation reached by these means, but many "outsiders" also join in and receive a blessing. Thus it is a fruitful form of mission work that can be done.

Pray that the Lord may lead, and plan now that this noble means may be used to bring to our little ones the Word of God.

Spiritual blessings have been evident, both at S.L.B.I. and C.L.B.I. A man coming to the Fellowship Week at C.L.B.I., sought out the pastors present and asked several of them if they could give him a formula for revival that would infallingly work. The clue to the blessings at our Christian schools in these "seasons of refreshing" is concisely stated by President Evenson of S.L.B.I. in his regular bulletin, where he writes: "It (our special meeting) has occupied an important place in the prayers of many for the past months." This is indeed one of the secrets in preparation for a revival. Let us pray for even greater seasons of refreshing.

By this time the Coin-a-Meal and coin folders will be in use. This is a blessed way to give. It is instructive where there are children in the home, and to all, a daily reminder of God's rich blessings to us. Use all these means prayerfully that the Lord's work may go forward.

Lutheran World Action calls for help. Offering envelopes will go out now to all congregations and preaching places. In some cases the envelopes together with publicity will be sent to some contact man in each place, and in other instances this material will be sent to the pastors for their distribution throughout the parish. Whichever method is used, it is important to get into action for Lutheran World Action, now.

The new film, "The Two Kingdoms," should be booked for use in the circuits as soon as possible. This is a very fine film and brings a unique message. It leaves those who see it

with a burden for the needy — it provokes discussion; it focuses interest. The depots handling this film are: The Foothills Bookstore, 26 Fourth St., N.E., Calgary, Alberta, and Pastor Gilbert T. Monson, 222 9th Street, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Dr. Mars A. Dale, our District president, has been elected editor of a new bulletin named, The Canada Committee Quarterly, and issued by the Lutheran World Federation of Committee for Canada. Elsewhere in The Shepherd a write-up will be found of a visit that he was asked to make in Eastern Canada. It gives some interesting sidelights on through our joint Lutheran effort. We urge you to read it carefully.

## Obituaries



Bert Lomnes

The deceased, Bert Lomnes, was born in Rendahlen, Norway on November 22, 1876. At the age of seven he came with his parents to America, and settled at Sheldon, North Dakota, U.S.A. In 1901 he came to Canada and settled at Armena, Alberta, where he resided until the time of his death. On November 19, 1903, he was united in marriage to Laura Kringen. For the past year he had been in indifferent health, and on January 21 he passed away quietly at his home at the age of 73 years.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his loving wife; seven children: Gertie (Mrs. George Lyseng), Sophie, (Mrs. Jack Kolysnik) both of Armena; Bernice, Mrs. Kenneth Knudson) of Camrose; Palma, (Mrs. Sten Gunderson) of Edmonton; Bennie of Round Hill; Harry of Wetaskiwin; and Lester at home; 12 grandchildren; and one sister, Mina (Mrs. Edward Lyseng) of Armena. A son, Palmer, a sister and a brother predeceased him.

Mr. and Mrs. Lomnes were some of the earliest members of the Scandia congregation, and all through the years have taken a very active part and interest in its work. Lomnes was always a great lover of music and children. He was superintendent of the Sunday School for years. For many years he was the leader of the Junior and Senior choirs. Until his death he was interested in Luther League work. He gave his heart to the Lord shortly after his marriage in 1903, and lived consistently for his Lord.

Funeral services were held in the Scandia Church January 24th at 2.00 p.m., with Rev. R. O. Olson officiating. He used as his text I Samuel 20:3, "Truly as the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth there is but a step between me and death." . . . bringing out this that Christ is the only certainty with which to face and to meet the threefold certainties which all men confront; a) the uncertainty of life; b) the certainty of death; and c) the certainty of eternity! There were two special numbers, a) solo in Norwegian, "In Heaven Above," by Bennie Lomnes; and a quartette by the four boys, Bennie, Harry, Lester and Sten Gunderson. The interment took place in the Scandia Church cemetery, in charge of Hoveland Funeral home. Many memorials were given to

various causes.

This is a poem written by one of the boys, recently converted to Christ, and which the pastor read at the close of the service:

### A TRIBUTE TO MY DAD

And now that father's left us,  
I sit in thoughtful mood,  
And think of all the blessings  
That I have had in dad.  
I will remember father  
And his quiet sort of way,  
How slow he was to anger,  
How ready to forgive.  
And how he loved us children,  
And taught us to obey,  
With ever loving kindness  
And not with iron hand.  
And how he loved our mother  
With love almost divine,  
And ne'er within our presence  
Harsh words to her he spoke.  
And how he loved His Bible,  
His God and Saviour, too,  
The dearest things upon this earth  
Could not compare to these.  
What earnest prayers he must have  
raised  
To God and Christ above,  
To bring his erring wayward son  
Before the Throne of Grace.  
I thank you, dad, for these your  
prayers,  
And for the path you've shown;  
Your God and Savior now are mine,  
Your hope is my hope, too.  
My God, I give to you my thanks  
For a father such as dad;  
No earthly father could be more  
Than he has been to me.  
Give me Thy Grace, Oh Lord I pray  
To live my life for Thee,  
That when this earthly life is o'er  
Then I may dwell with Thee.  
For this assurance you have giv'n  
Within your holy Book,  
That all who live in Christ, Thy Son,  
Eternal life shall have.  
Before my heav'nly Father's throne  
When earthly life is o'er,  
I'll meet my father once again  
Among the Heav'nly Throne.  
Of this I'm sure, he is not dead,  
My father is not dead;  
He merely sleeps, the blessed sleep,  
The sleep in Jesus' Name!  
—Bennie Lomnes.

### Mrs. Clifford McComb

A funeral service was held February 7th at 3.00 p.m. for Mrs. Clifford McComb (nee Olive Berstad) who died unexpectedly in her home at the Carlea Bible School on February 3rd. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Berstad of Fairy Glen.

She was baptized and confirmed at the Carrot River Valley Lutheran Church and was active in the work of the congregation, Sunday School, Luther League and Vacation Bible School. She was married to Clifford McComb of Choiceland, Sask., on May 6, 1942. Here she and her husband worked with the Sunday School. In the spring of 1949 they moved to their home on the Carlea Bible School grounds, Carlea, Sask.

She is survived by her husband, one daughter, Judith, her mother and father; also one sister, Edna, Mrs. Gordon Nelson of Viscount, Sask.; and two brothers, Richard Berstad of Fairy Glen and Rev. Arne Berstad of Melville.

Rev. G. Hendrickson conducted the funeral service at the Carrot River Valley Lutheran Church 3.00 p.m., February 7th. Rev. J. Baxter of the Carlea Bible School, brought an appropriate message. Special music was provided by a soloist and male quartet from the Carlea Bible School.

Several memorial gifts were given to the Carlea Bible School, the Saskatchewan Lutheran Bible Institute, the Evangelical Lutheran Hour broadcast from Prince Albert, and the building fund of the Carrot River Valley Lutheran Church.

### Mrs. Leo Lindskog

The funeral of Mrs. Leo Lindskog, who passed away in Saskatoon February 5th, was held at the Carrot River Valley Lutheran Church on February 11th, 2.00 p.m. She is survived by her

husband, two sons, Gordon and Morris, and three granddaughters. She is also survived by her aged father, E. P. Sjodin, residing at Weldon, three brothers, John, Pete and Olaf, and four sisters, Bertha, Karin, Katie and Carolyn.

### Cecile Wayne Erickson

Funeral service was conducted February 7th for Cecile Wayne Erickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Erickson of Brockington. The service was held in Carrot River Valley Church, Pastor G. Hendrickson officiating. This five year old boy is survived by his parents, one brother, and five sisters. Memorial gifts were given to the building fund, and the Evangelical Lutheran Hour broadcast.

### Mike Iverson

Mike Iverson of Shell Lake passed away November 10th, after a short illness. Services were held at the new Lutheran Church with Student Pastor Howie Olson officiating. Mr. Iverson was born in Fjeld district near Bergen, Norway in 1872 and went to the United States in 1893, moving to Shell Lake in 1912. He died at the age of 74.

He leaves to mourn his departure, three daughters, Mrs. S. E. Erickson, Shell Lake; Mrs. R. Fisher and Mrs. Sid Morrison, Seattle, Washington; and four sons, Ingolf, Shell Lake; Melvin and Olaf, Oak Lake, Man.; and Edwin, Seattle, Washington. Interment was made in Shell Lake cemetery.

### Andrew Kvigstad

Andrew Kvigstad was born in West Toten Norway on June 13, 1859.

He married Carie Borsdotter in 1878. They emigrated to Dalton, Minnesota, U.S.A., in 1886 where they farmed until 1910 when they homesteaded near Cairns, Alberta. In 1920 they moved to Bawlf, Alberta, where he engaged in shoe repair business until 1928 when they moved to Metiskow, Alberta where he resided until his death. His wife passed away in 1939.

He passed away to be with his Lord at the home of his son John Kvigstad at Metiskow, Alberta on February 18, 1950, at the age of 90 years.

He leaves to mourn his loss six children, Annie (Mrs. Quale) of Sebeke, Minn.; Ida (Mrs. Botting) of Heinsburg, Alta.; Anton Kvigstad of Clendonald, Alta.; John Kvigstad Bertha (Mrs. R. Johnson) and Sina (Mrs. Hans Hanson) all of Metiskow, Alberta; also 52 grandchildren; 52 great grandchildren; one great grand child and many nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held in Metiskow community hall on Wednesday, February 22 with Dr. H. T. Egedahl officiating.

There were many beautiful floral tributes. Gifts were given in memory of many worthy causes, including gifts to Miss Alice Kvigstad at Mission Evangelique, Uavous Par Bouke Ivory Coast, French West Africa.

### S.L.B.I. Consecration Week

The Spirit of God moved mightily at S.L.B.I. during our consecration week services, February 13-19. Pastor R. O. Olson of Armena gave a series of messages on the theme, "From Bondage to Life." He was assisted by Mr. Joe Hovdestad of Elbow, Sask., and Mr. Philip Anderson of Tofield, Alta.

As a result of these services many claimed Christ as Savior, or re-dedicated their lives to Him. For the messengers, and the Lord's use of them, we give thanks to God.

Christian friends, let us dedicate ourselves to daily prayer for heaven-sent revivals in all our congregations. May the little blazes of revival here and there unite into a mighty flame sweeping our land with blessings for eternity.

—G. O. Evenson.



### A MESSAGE IN A MISPRINT

This was the heading over an article in The Shepherd some years ago. The misprint in that issue was that the words "Good Shepherd" were printed as "God Shepherd." But even that misprint carried a message. In a day when the divinity of Christ is widely questioned it may be well to be reminded that the "Good Shepherd" is truly the "God Shepherd." He is the God-man. Because He is God, His death and blood has infinite power of atonement. And that he is man gives us a High Priest that can be touched with the feeling of our infirmity.

In the last issue of The Shepherd the linotype pounded out an unusual mistake. In the editorial of that issue we mentioned the beginning of Lent, Ash Wednesday. This ushers in Lent, and to us in the E.L.C., is also the starting date of our coin-a-meal efforts. Commenting on this brought the misprint. We read: "This marks the **begging** in the church year that can be filled with rich blessings." Of course the underscored word should be "beginning." No one who knows the spirit of the giving that motivates the placing of coins in this container will for a moment, look upon it as "begging" by the church.

As this coin-a-meal container stands on your table does it not "beg" in a winsome way? Does it not bear the picture of the Saviour who died for all men? Does it not plead (not beg) for a heart of compassion?

There can be a message in a misprint.

### ARE YOU IN LOVE?

Eph. 5:1-9

#### Third Sunday in Lent

In the first three chapters of this letter Paul has been setting forth the doctrinal basis of our Salvation; how the Triune God has gone all out in love to provide salvation for us! God's supreme motive was love. "God commended His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8). That is, love is what God inherently is, and possesses! "God is Love." (I John 4:16). However, love to be love, its very nature and being is to find some outlet of expression! God has uniquely shown for all time what true love is by the giving of His Only Begotten Son upon the cross for us, and on the basis of this love Paul exhorts us: "Walk in love, as Christ loved us, and hath given Himself for us." (Eph. 5:2). What is love? In God we find the answer. In Him we find a love which is inexhaustible, and being inexhaustible, it must of necessity converge and operate only in one field. For instance, God could not possibly demonstrate His love toward man by both sacrificing His Son for our sins, and at the same time selfishly seek to keep Him! In other words, to reveal His boundless love God was confined to one field of operation only, either to selfishly keep His Son, or by going all out and sacrificing Him for us. Forgetful of self, God chose to lose Himself in love for us! Yes, how tremendously God is in love with us!

Now what about our side of the love picture? Are you in love? What connotation has the word "love" for us? A superficial survey of the field will show how extremely often, and loosely the word, or the idea of love is used! It is in fact the most misused and misunderstood word, and not least in our day, a day when a transference of real love, the Christ-like love, should be poured into the arteries and veins of all life. Listen to the radio, everyday talk, read the common-run magazines cluttering the shelves, and note the very low level the thought at which love is presented! Ask the sinner steeped in sin, and hear his answer on a purely physical basis! Ask the socially respectable person, and again the answer is on a purely physical basis, on a higher level! Ask the common run churchgoer and still the answer is more of the physical self than the spiritual! Ask an out-and-out Christian, and

how good to know that there are those who answering on a spiritual basis can say with Paul: "For me to live is Christ." Where the love of self has given way to the love of Christ.

Love is the biggest business in the world. It is spoken of much in Scripture. How sadly it has been exploited at every level by man, in every phase of life, for profit or personal satisfaction! Sad to say love has even been exploited spiritually.

However, fundamentally love can be only of two classes. It is either of self, or of Christ! There is nothing as insidious as self-love, and nothing more up-lifting than Christ-love! Love is such a powerful thing that no matter in which field it operates, self or Christ, it will result in the death of self! In the first instance, (i.e. living for self) it leads to the ultimate destruction of both body and soul; and in the latter instance (i.e. unto Christ) to the death of self, and the glorification of Christ, and the putting off, and away, of all that which Paul mentions here that is adverse to the Christian life! "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body (self) ye shall live." Rom. 8:13.

In conclusion: We must love! But the question for each of us to determine is, in what direction, and in what field, is my love operating . . . self or Christ?

—R. O. Olson.

### District News

The interior of Norquay Church will have a new balcony. This is almost completed. A dedication service will be held at the Yorkton Circuit spring convention. An altar painting, "Thorvaldson's Christ," has been donated by the Ladies' Aid.

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It is interesting to note how love for a cause can find expression in gifts. In the new church at Bow Island, dedicated a year ago, the following gifts are listed in a fine summary report of the congregation: Pulpit, 24 Concordias, altar, painting and Bible, electric wiring, altar cross, collection plate, organ, heating stove, toilet. The Women's Missionary Federation has donated paint and varnish, 24 chairs, altar chair, rubber matting. Henry Holte is at present serving the parish.

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Moose Jaw Circuit Luther League convention will be held at Estevan March 17-19. This will be preceded by a Bible Week March 10-17. Guest speakers, Dr. Mars A. Dale and Evangelist Arnold Maakestad.

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S.L.B.I. Luther League Executive recently voted to send a gift to graduate Inga Kjos to assist her to defray the expenses of her trip to Bolivia where she is to serve as foreign missionary.

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#### Former District President

Pastor J. J. Akre (Emeritus) former president of Canada District is now of failing health. If he lives until April 14th, this year he will be 87 years.

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#### Did You Know?

Canadians spent a record total of \$83,283,400 on motion picture theatre entertainment in 1948, an increase of six per cent over the preceding year. Expenditures in this form of entertainment in 1948 amounted to \$6.50 per person, compared with \$6.30 in 1947, and \$5.01 in 1942.

#### RESETTLEMENT TRIP TO EASTERN CANADA

(Continued from Page One)

Britain and the U.S. would mean as much to Canada as any of the nations. Asked about the latter he pointed to large irrigation projects being opened in the Medicine Hat area of Southern Alberta.

#### A VISIT TO A DP CAMP

The afternoon of Thursday was spent out at St. Paul L'Ermite, about

25 miles from Montreal. Here we visited the Hostel of the Department of Labor, under the direction of F. J. Isaac, a Menonite and a Russian. A fine Christian man he was, and doing a wonderful job in that camp. Here were housed 298 immigrants, most of whom were DP's. The Director of the Camp had been on "screening service" in Germany so he knew whereof he spoke when he told us the story back of many of these families. He had arranged for a meeting, in the lounge, of all Lutherans at 2.30 and there assembled about 50, mostly Estonians and Latvians. I spoke through Friedrichsen, as an interpreter, and reminded these brethren-in-the-faith that the Christ whom we all worshipped and whom we should all love was the same yesterday, today and forever in spite of changing circumstances and unforeseen trials. After the meeting several of the residents came up and spoke to us in the English language. One young family, husband, wife and two small children, wondered if they should return to England. He was a "small carpenter" (cabinet maker), he said. His wife was a dentist but dentists were not allowed to practice in Canada until they had been residents at least five years, and of course they would then have to pass all the necessary Canadian examinations.

All people housed in this camp were waiting to be employed. But employment was not so easy to find, said the director. Usually people were not housed longer than two weeks until work was secured but with the growing unemployment it was not the exception that these people would live in camp from one to two months.

We left the camp feeling that the government was doing a fine piece of work here and that it was particularly fine that a Christian was employed as director. This meant that Friedrichsen and other chaplains were called out to minister to these people in a spiritual manner.

On the way back from camp, Friedrichsen spoke further of his work. He told how he ministered to the children as well as the adults, of some of the tragic breakdowns on the part of some who came here, of how others wanted to return and how some just picked up and left. It seems that the Estonians, coming from Sweden, all have money and are thus able to become more easily acclimated to their new environments. On the other hand, because of their financial independence they were not always so easily satisfied with employment other than what they were accustomed to in Sweden.

I left Montreal that night and as I boarded the train for Halifax, I felt that God was blessing the work of our immigrant pastor in Montreal and that I would urge our people to both pray and give to this important cause which is included in our C.L.W.A. project.

#### OFF TO HALIFAX

Friday was spent on the C.N.R. train. C.N.R. has taken off many fine trains due, they say, to America's John L. Lewis, but we wonder, if it is not due to the Dominion Government's deficit when it comes to its railroad. At any rate we did enjoy some oysters that had just been fished from a New Brunswick bed and later some ultra fresh smelts that had been just netted. The next day, incidentally, we did enjoy some scallops, too.

The train pulled into Halifax three hours late so we got in early Saturday morning instead of Friday night. I did get a few winks of sleep, however, and was all set when Miss Katrina Petersons, our Halifax Port Worker, called and asked when she should meet me. Previous arrangements had been made to meet "the Bishop" Pastor Whitteker, at 10 o'clock, so Miss Petersons was asked to meet us at the hotel at that time, too.

#### AN ESTONIAN COLONY

Again, a most interesting day followed. Pastor Bald, who was interested in an Estonian settlement, some miles out of New Glasgow, Nova Sco-

tia, had accompanied "The Bishop" and as a result we had a fine discussion on just what should be done for the Estonian colony of about seventy who built houses resembling overnight cabins so they could all live close to one another. We decided to give the Estonians a hand in getting some pieces of machinery for their handicraft work in which they had specialized. Of course, we told Bald it would all be subject to the Executive Committee's okay and also we would remember that even though the sum was small, yet it would have to be in the form of a loan. We were all agreed that it was much better to make people responsible for repaying money borrowed than to set them up on a dole system. These DPs' have pride, too, and the way it was done was most pleasing to them. We also discussed the matter of spiritual ministry. Either Bald or Pastor Raudsepp, who is now serving his countrymen in Montreal, will take care of this matter and the committee will be asked to set aside a certain amount of money for this ministry.

#### A VISIT FROM MISS PETERSONS

After settling this colony matter we left the hotel, under the guidance of Miss Petersons. In our next issue we hope to have an article telling, in a more detailed manner, about the fine preparation Miss Petersons has for her work. In passing let me say she is a charming girl, with much executive ability. She has had seven years of education beyond high school, and received that education in Riga, Latvia, her home town. By the way, I wonder how many of us know that Latvia, of all the countries in Europe, has the largest number per thousand receiving more than a high school education. Miss Petersons speaks six languages fluently and sends all reports to us, and writes all her letters in the English language. We were first taken to the port in Halifax. There we were shown the immigrant offices and the method of processing as the immigrants come off the various boats. We spoke with the government official who heads all immigration in this port and it was interesting to hear that he feels it is entirely up to the people to determine how many immigrants they want in this country. He also told of the new setup for immigration. A minister of immigration is being appointed and a department being formed. It was felt that this would vitalize the whole program and put teeth into its structure.

#### DETENTION QUARTERS

This fine government official admitted us to the detention quarters, where we met a fine family by the name of Lucas. Here father, mother and son had been living in a small room and a half for six months while proof was being secured of the legality of their entering Canada. Next to them was a young girl who was also said to have come in illegally. But just as we were told that, both the family and the girl had had "good news" and they were to be admitted. No one can know the joy that wells up in the hearts of such as these. Both parties had been allowed to attend Lutheran services on Christmas Day but now they were to be able to thank God that they could be at services each Sunday.

(This article will be concluded in the next issue of The Shepherd.)

#### PLACEMENT SERVICE

For sale: Grocery, meat and fruit business, and an eight room dwelling at Outlook, Sask. Railway division point. Home of S.L.B.I. Lutheran church in town.

#### W.M.F. COOK BOOK

Are you looking for a birthday or "shower" gift? Why not give a W.M.F. Cook Book? There are still some to be had, and we urge you all to order your supply NOW. Price is one dollar. Send your order to Miss Clara Haugen, 212 Wiggins Avenue, Saskatoon, Sask.



## YOUNG PEOPLE'S LUTHER LEAGUE

MILTON RUDE, Editor, Luther Seminary, 212 Wiggins Ave., Saskatoon, Sask.

Deadline for material to Y.P.L.L. Editor the 15th of each preceding month

### "THE HEART"

Our hearts are so important in the physical life. Many worry about their heart condition. Insurance companies advertise, urging people to watch their hearts. Heart disease has taken a high position in the last century among the fatal diseases because many of the serious, contagious diseases have been conquered by medical science. Our heart is important even if we do not often consider it in our daily activities. It is regarded as the seat of the physical life.

Are we aware of the importance of the heart in the spiritual realm? It is also the seat of the spiritual life. The heart is mentioned many hundred times in the Bible, mostly in a spiritual sense of course. More often it is mentioned in the Old Testament. The law must affect the heart and not only the hands. How true when Jesus interpreted the law.

The scribes and pharisees dealt with the outward fulfilling of the law, while Jesus said, "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man; but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man." Matt. 15:19-20. Yes, not only is the heart the "force pump" in our physical life, but also in our spiritual life!

The heart is not only the "power house" of our conscious, physical life, but also of the Christian life. In Romans 10:9-10, we read, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God has raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved; for with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." How important is the heart!

Medical authorities advise that after middle age one should "watch" the heart. In the spiritual life, which is far more important, we should examine our heart as soon as we are able to discern its condition.

"Search me, O God and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead in the way everlasting." Psalm 139: 23-24.

"Come into my heart, Lord Jesus."

—Norman Foster.

### P.A. INVITES YOU

Prince Albert Leaguers are indeed happy that the District has accepted their invitation to hold the 1950 L.L. convention in the centre of their circuit in the city of Prince Albert. A number of committees have been formed and preparations have begun to secure meeting places, etc. Everyone is enthusiastic and helpful!

We wish to extend an invitation to Leaguers including those from Peace River to Winnipeg to plan now to attend this convention. We want you to know that you are cordially invited and if you plan "now" to come you will have your heart and thoughts with us and we need your prayers for our preparations. Also if you decide early to come, others are encouraged by your decision and will do accordingly.

The theme, "Behold Christ Crucified," is a challenging one from John 1:29, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." It offers the greatest gift ever given, the forgiveness of your sins. Won't you plan to come and worship with us July 27th to 30th? May your answer be as the theme song, "Beneath the Cross of Jesus, I fain would take my stand."

—Selmer Gjesdal,

L.L. President of Prince Albert Circuit.

### PREPARE WITH PRAYER

Do you remember that beautiful poster that we all had in our churches last year with the above motto? On it was a scene of a young boy and girl praying for the Saskatoon Luther League convention. Do you remember how that your League and many other Leagues had several special prayer sessions? Above all, do you remember how God so marvelously answered our prayer beyond all expectation? Each committee had its problems in their preparations, but God solved them all through prayer. From many sources we received wonderful testimonies of the convention which were a result of prayer.

Now we are "On the Way to P.A." for another Luther League convention July 27th to 30th. Let us again prepare with prayer. Let us pray that our theme: "Behold Christ Crucified" might become the living experience to all who may come. Let us pray that His Word may again be preached clearly with power of God's Holy Spirit. Let us pray that many of our Leaguers will again plan to attend our District Luther League convention. And also, let us pray for Prince Albert and its surrounding community. May this convention leave its spiritual impact and testimony to the people who may not even be interested in spiritual matters.

Prayer will be our key to a successful convention. Begin now to prepare with prayer.

—Gordon Hope,

Prayer Crusade Chairman.

### TRANSPORTATION PLANS TO PRINCE ALBERT

"It seems unlikely that there will be any large scale plans for group transportation to the District convention at Prince Albert this summer. There may be, however, certain areas in our District that could benefit by chartering a bus; or in some other way arrange for group fares. The only way that anything can be organized will be for the various circuits to make their problems known.

As a starter, then, I am going to send out letters to all our Y.P.L.L. Circuit presidents, requesting them to forward me their circuit's Prince Albert transportation problems. It would be the duty of each League local to see that the Circuit President gets the local transportation problems handed in to him. Any action on my part regarding transportation to Prince Albert will be governed by the information I receive from you, and you, and you!

—Luther S. Olson,

P.A. Transportation Director.

### PRINCE ALBERT CIRCUIT LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION

The Prince Albert Circuit Luther League met in convention at Birch Hills, February 2-5, under the theme, "Behold Christ Crucified."

The weather was stormy; the roads were poor; nevertheless, young people and older people, too, gathered each day in the Lutheran church to learn anew of Jesus suffering.

We met Him face to face through topics by various Leaguers, by discussion leaders and through our guest speaker, Dr. Mars A. Dale.

The convention opened Thursday evening with a message from Dr. Dale. He spoke each evening as well as Sunday forenoon and afternoon.

During the business session Saturday morning each member of the executive gave a talk on the work he represents in the Every Member Plan. Each League was urged to promote a greater interest in good reading. Faith in Action and Canadian Leaguers Advance, were explained as to purpose and need of support from each local League.

The executive for the coming year were elected as follows: President, Selmer Gjesdal; vice-president, George Haugen; treasurer, Ernest Erickson; recording secretary, Edna Olsen; corresponding secretary, Isabel Kaldor; Pocket Testament League secretary, Lucille Hagen; Tract Club secretary, Gladys Halderson; Echo editor, Alice Gjesdal; and advisor, Rev. M. Odland.

The Prince Albert Circuit is already making plans for the District convention to be held in Prince Albert this July 27-30. We ask you to remember this convention before God in prayer.

—Isabel Kaldor.

### Attention — Circuit and Local P.T.L. Secretaries

The Canada District Luther League has purchased the new sound film-strip, "Toward Bold Endeavor." This film is prepared to promote the P.T.L. movement. There is no rental charge when used by Luther Leagues. Contact Mr. G. Loken, S.L.B.I., Outlook, Sask.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVENTION MESSAGES

The theme of the Prince Albert Circuit Luther League convention was "Behold Christ Crucified." During the first session Dr. Mars Dale spoke on "Behold Christ Crucified in Prayer." Our prayers should be specific. Pray for the burden on one's heart and remember to come to God helpless and He will help you. All through the convention days, the need for prayer was stressed.

Several inspiring topics were given, each one having as its theme, "Behold Christ Crucified." First in our prayer life, then in our occupation, in the home and in our work, in the local congregation and Luther League, also in deciding about our friends, our life's work, and our life mate. Each one clearly pointed out to us the need of Christ as our Guide in choosing our path in life. We should give ourselves all to Him, not only part of ourselves — but all! Trying to live for Christ and also the world will not bring us any satisfaction in life. Pray and believe! The guiding hand of Christ will help us in choosing the different walks in life.

During the Bible study the importance of Baptism and Communion were discussed; also the different parts of the Bible which speak of Christ's humanity. He was human just like you or I — born into the world to suffer and die that we might be saved. The theme, "Behold Christ Crucified" became meaningful to us throughout our convention.

—Edna Olson,

Recording Secretary.

### A Greeting from a P.T.L. Secretary ARE WE BOOKWORMS OR EARTHWORMS

Jesus said, "Search the Scriptures because — these are they which testify of me." John 5:39.

Spurgeon one time found a worm-eaten Bible on the table of a Scotch inn. Holding it up to the light, he saw one hole eaten through from Genesis to Revelation and prayed, "Lord, make me a bookworm like that." Such a bookworm never turns into an earthworm.

Friend, are you an earthworm or a bookworm? Do you find yourself right at this moment so busy and interested in earthly things that you haven't time to read this "Shepherd" properly? Then you like Martha need to act on this admonition of Jesus, "Thou art anxious and troubled about many things — but one thing is needful." Today also Jesus exhorts us to sit still at His feet and learn of Him first. Read again the opening verse of

this greeting. P.T.L. members, remember that we made a covenant with God when we promised to read a portion of His Word daily and carry a Testament whenever possible. Any failure on our part is a sin and must be confessed to God as such.

Then, too, how faithful are we in fulfilling this Word of Scripture, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly." It seems to me that the only way to let it dwell in us is through memorizing. Have you tried making and using flash cards? Write the verse on one side and the reference on the other. Then review from time to time.

How many gospels, Testaments, or whole Bibles have you given away? Some are available at a low price at S.L.B.I. Bookstore. If you do not see the value or the necessity of this work read the tract, "Get me that Book," also available from S.L.B.I. It made me very ashamed.

Since beginning the study of Acts by correspondence I have found more than ever that much Bible reading is necessary to keep us in tune with God's standard notes, otherwise my notes soon go flat. Truly this verse is true.

"Thy Word is like a deep, deep mine, And jewels rich and rare — Are hidden in its mighty depths, For every searcher there."

If you cannot take training at S.L.B.I., take a Bible course by correspondence. Study at your leisure at home. You may start anytime. Much could be said about the methods of Bible study for our own private enjoyment and blessing, but only this will I say in closing; Let's be faithful P.T.L. members — thus faithful to God.

Can you master the Bible in your own strength? Zechariah 4:6b: "Not by might nor by power but by my Spirit, saith Jehovah of Hosts." God bless you all.

—Bernice Berg,

Yorkton Circuit P.T.L. Secretary.

### CHRISTIAN SERVICE GROUP C.L.C.

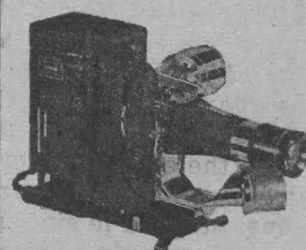
Greetings in Jesus' Name from C.L.C. Christian Service Group, Camrose.

It is again my privilege to send in a few words to "The Shepherd" concerning our C.S.G. Pastor Maakestad of Edmonton was with us during our Consecration Week, which was from January 30th to February 3rd. His messages, which were filled with the Holy Spirit, led many of us to think more deeply concerning our spiritual welfare. We are truly thankful to our Maker and Redeemer for the many blessings which He bestows upon His children. We were also favored with special musical numbers by members of the C.S.G.

Then, too, some of us have attended the evening services at the Bible School, conducted by Mr. Paul Lindell, director of the World Mission Prayer League. What a challenge was put before us! Oh, that we might all answer, "Here am I, send me!"

We have also been privileged in having Professor Nehrenz, regional director of evangelism, as well as Mr. Lindell, speak to us in our Chapel periods. May God continue to bless these men in their work and all who hear the mighty messages which they bring from our Lord and Master.

—Iris Bjornson, reporter.



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